MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Yes.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: May I know why, after one year, they recommended to Government that the carboraffin process should be changed to the bone-char process?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI: There was difference of opinion in regard to that matter between the Expert and the Managing Agents; the Managing Agents brought in another Expert who did not know much about the carboraffin process. So, the Managing Agents thought that it was better to change the process to bone-char.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: Not the Expert?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI: No.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: Am I to understand that, instead of changing the Expert, the Managing Agents recommended the change of the whole plant?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Only a special tower had to be erected for the bone-char process; and that the Government did not approve.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: With reference to the answer to part (*e*), may I know whether the attempts to refine the jaggery were made on the carboraffin process or the bone-char process?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Only the carboraffin process.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: Who is to suffer the loss of the jaggery lost on account of the experiment?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI: The Compay.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: Do not Government also suffer the loss on their shares?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Naturally.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: With reference to the answer to part (*g*), may I know whether the Expert, who now refines the jaggery, is the one who was with them when they found out that the carboraffin process will not be a success?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLA: No.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: I challenge that answer.

Lack of facilities for importing rice and paddy at the Valiathura Port.

72. MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that considerable hardship is being experienced by the merchants who import paddy and rice at the Valiathurai Pier for want of sufficient godowns and if so, the action taken by them to remove the same;

(*b*) whether they are aware that, since the port limits are not enclosed, the merchants find it very difficult especially during nights since there are no lights to guard the paddy and rice unloaded, and if so, whether they will afford protection by enclosing the port limits and providing electric lights;

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[Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai.]

(*c*) whether they are aware that the collection of rain water on the southern side of the Port Office (Valiathurai Pier) is causing considerable damage to the paddy and rice unloaded, and, if so, the action taken by them to remove this; and

(*d*) whether their attention has been drawn to the great inconvenience caused to the merchants by the delay in the return of their account books produced in courts; and, if so, the action taken by them to remove the same?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes. Sanction has already been accorded for the construction of a closed godown at the port and the Chief Engineer has been asked to take up the work and complete it expeditiously. Sanction has also been accorded for the construction of another open godown at the port.

(*b*) Yes. Sanction has been accorded for the electrification of the port and it is reported that the work is being pushed through by the Electrical Department. The question of the construction of an enclosure wall round the port limits is held over for want of funds.

(*c*) Yes. An estimate for raising the ground to the road level has been sanctioned.

(*d*) Government have no information.

Strength of arrack supplied in Travancore, Cochin and the Madras Presidency.

73. MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the minimum and maximum strength of the arrack supplied in the State and the strength of the same in Cochin and in the Madras Presidency; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to reduce the strength of the arrack supplied in the State?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: (*a*) (I) *Travancore*.

(*a*) *Jaggery arrack*. Jaggery arrack of both 30° U. P. and 35° U. P. is supplied in all the taluks of Travancore except Shertallai, Vaikam, Muvattupuzha, Todupuzha, Kunnatnad and Parur. In the last mentioned six taluks, jaggery arrack of 35° U. P. alone is supplied.

(*b*) Cocoanut toddy arrack or Coco-brandy.—Cocoanut toddy arrack or "Coco-brandy" of both 25° U. P. and 35° U. P. is supplied in all the towns where this kind of arrack is allowed to be sold, *viz.*, Nagercoil, Trivandrum, Attingal, Quilon, Kayankulam, Alleppey, Kottayam, Minachil, Vaikam, Shertallai, Alwaye, Muvattupuza and Mundakayam.

(II) *Cochin State*. Arrack of both 35° U. P. and 60° U. P. is supplied.

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